

## Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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R 121130Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8031

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 3284

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL,UR

SUBJECT: ARTISTS ATTACKED FOR EXHIBITION OF UNORTHODOX

PAINTINGS

REFS: (A) MOSCOW 2281 (B) MOSCOW 14691 (C) MOSCOW 17509

1. MOSCOW EVENING NEWSPAPER VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA ON  
MARCH 10 CONTINUED ITS RUNNING BATTLE WITH SOVIET  
AVANTE GARDE ARTISTS BY PUBLISHING SHARP ATTACK ON  
PAINTINGS SHOWN FEBRUARY 20-26 AT APIARY HALLON GROUNDS  
OF EXHIBITION OF ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS (REF A).

YU. NEKHOROSHEV, THE APTLY NAMED EDITOR OF THE ART  
JOURNAL TVORCHESTVO, ASSERTED THAT THE GRANTING OF  
PERMISSION FOR THE "MINI-EXHIBIT" OF 70 PAINTINGS  
WAS PROOF OF THE ATTENTION SHOWN THE ARTISTS, BUT  
HE RAISED THE QUESTION OF WHY SO MUCH ATTENTION WAS ALSO  
SHOWN BY THE CAPITALIST PRESS. THE ANSWER HE SAW IS THE  
COMMON FACTOR UNITING THE ARTISTS -- THEIR DISREGARD  
OF POSITIVE TENDENCIES IN SOVIET LIFE AND THEIR OPEN  
CONTEMPT FOR EVERYTHING BUT THEIR OWN EGOS.

2. LABELING THE ARTISTS MALCONTENTS WHO ARE

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ACTUALLY STUMBLING ABOUT IN THE WAKE OF PROGRESS RATHER

THAN BEING IN THE VANGUARD, NEKHOROSHEV LISTS THOSE ARTISTS WHOSE WORKS MOST IRRITATED HIM. THE NAMES ARE FAMILIAR FROM PREVIOUS ATTACKS IN VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA OF THE IZMAYLOVO PARK SHOW OF SEPTEMBER 26 (REF B) AND THE NOVEMBER 19,1974, SHOW IN THE CENTRAL BUILDING OF ART WORKERS (REF C). O. RABIN, D. PLAVINSKIY, O. KANDAUROV, V. NEMUKHIN, A. MASTERKOVA AND OTHERS ARE CRITICIZED FOR EROTICISM, MYSTICISM, AND APING PREVIOUS SCHOOLS OF ART: ABSTRACT IMPRESSIONISM, SURREALISM, EXPRESSIONISM, AND EARLY POP ART, ETC.

3. NEKHOROSHEV CHALLENGES THE USEFULNESS OF SHOWING SUCH WORKS SO FREQUENTLY, BUT HE ADMITS THE PRINCIPLE OF LETTING THE PUBLIC SEE FOR THEMSELVES THE REAL ESSENCE OF THOSE WHO CONSIDER THEMSELVES AVANTE GARDE ARTISTS.

3. COMMENT: MEKHOROSHEV'S REMARKS SUGGEST THAT THE NEXT EXHIBITION MAY NOT COME AS EASILY OR AS RAPIDLY AS THE LAST THREE ON THE OTHER HAND,  
VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA HAS NOT IN THE PAST BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN HAVING THE FINAL WORD IN ITS RUNNING POLEMIC WITH THE UNORTHODOX ARTISTS.

STOESSEL

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